

Plan International

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# Chapeau

- Reaffirm and recommit to all existing international human rights frameworks and commitments
  for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including,
  but not limited to, the Conventions on the Rights of the Child; Convention on the Elimination of
  Discrimination against Women; the right to a clean, healthy, sustainable environment; the Beijing
  Declaration and its Platform for Action; and the ICPD Programme of Action; as well as all other
  relevant outcome documents, principles and standards, including the principle of
  intergenerational equity; recognising that all human rights are universal, indivisible,
  interdependent, and interrelated;
- Recognise and commit to human rights and gender equality as cross-cutting to the Pact; and to
  a rights-based, gender transformative, age responsive and disability inclusive approach to its
  implementation and accountability that prioritises the needs of the most marginalised, including
  girls and adolescents, and other groups who face multiple and intersecting forms of
  discrimination.

#### Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

- Commit to a rights-based, inclusive, gender transformative, age responsive and disability inclusive approach to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recognising gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls as central to sustainable development and essential for achieving the SDGs and ensure that all sustainable development policies and programmes are child and youth-centred, gender transformative, age responsive, and disability-inclusive;
- Recognise children, particularly girls and adolescents, as critical agents of change and torchbearers of sustainable development for current and future generations, emphasising the value and importance of their contributions, voices, agency and leadership to an inclusive and sustainable future;
- Reaffirm the pledge to leave no one behind, prioritising the needs of all children, girls and adolescents who face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, in all policies, programmes, budgeting, and follow up and review processes at national, regional, and global levels;

- 4. Establish safe and ethical mechanisms for the full, effective, equal, and meaningful participation of children and youth, especially girls and adolescents, in the development, implementation and follow- up and review processes of sustainable development policies at all levels, ensuring that young people who are working actively to create an impact are provided with feedback and follow-up on their recommendations;
- 5. Invest in gender transformative, inclusive, quality education systems for all children and young people, especially girls and adolescents, identifying and addressing gender disparities and their root causes, and ensuring equitable access for all children and adolescents who are structurally marginalised; committing to centring gender equality at the heart of education plans, budgets and policies in all contexts;
- 6. Commit to addressing significant gender disparities in education, and to build system capacity to address gender inequalities, to eliminate gender bias and stereotypes from curricula, teaching and learning materials, including through harnessing the power of digital technologies, and ensure all teachers and learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to examine, challenge and change gender stereotypes, harmful norms, attitudes and practices, unequal power relations, gender discrimination and wider intersecting inequalities;
- 7. Commit to the full implementation of the outcomes of the 2022 Transforming Education Summit;
- 8. Ensure equitable access to quality, affordable, inclusive, age and gender responsive sexual and reproductive health services, including to menstrual health and hygiene management, for adolescent girls and young people, in all their diversity, eliminating stigma surrounding reproductive health and ensuring that all services are free of discrimination, violence or coercion;
- 9. Recognise comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) as key to achieving sustainable development, and commit to delivering scientifically accurate, inclusive, rights-based, gender transformative CSE for all children, adolescents and young people, in both formal and non-formal educational settings, recognising the importance of supporting children, adolescents and young people to gain knowledge, explore values and attitudes and develop the skills they need to promote their health and wellbeing, tackle gender-based violence and reduce unintended adolescent pregnancies, in all contexts;
- 10. Recognise and commit to addressing the disproportionate impact of the climate crisis on children, particularly those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, especially girls, and to address these impacts in nationally determined contributions and national adaptation plans; ensuring their meaningful participation and active consultation in all climate policies and decision-making; and age and gender responsive measures across in mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, and climate finance, as well as to promoting sustainable practices, supporting green innovation and facilitating access to resources;
- 11. Recognise the importance of Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action;
- 12. Increase gender responsive financing for development, including for policies and programmes focused on gender equality, and/or increases in ODA more broadly, and investments in policies and programmes that specifically address the unique challenges and meets the needs of girls and adolescent girls; committing to redirect resources to local, community, girl, and youth-led organisations and establishing dedicated funds and mechanisms to finance their initiatives.

### Chapter II. International peace and security

1. Ensure the ethical, safe and meaningful participation and inclusion of youth, especially girls, in all stages of peacebuilding, including in peace negotiations, conflict resolution, and post-conflict reconstruction;

2. Commit to inclusive, gender responsive measures to protect all children and youth in conflict, post-conflict and fragile settings, including measures to prevent, eliminate and respond to all forms of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, recruitment into armed forces or groups, and ensuring continuity of access to education, including comprehensive sexuality education, and health services, including sexual and reproductive health services, and provision of psychosocial support for all young people impacted by conflict.

Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

- Recommit to the applicability of all human rights frameworks and standards as outlined in the Chapeau to the digital environment and offline, including, in particular, privacy, expression, access to information, and protection from discrimination, violence, harassment and abuse;
- 2. Invest in inclusive, gender transformative, age responsive and disability- inclusive measures to bridge the gender, age and disability digital divides, recognising the importance of a life course approach, and including through ensuring access to digital resources, literacy, and skills for all children and young people, especially girls and adolescent girls, to meaningfully access, use, lead, and design technology and innovation; as well as to inclusive digital technologies and accessible information on opportunities for skills development;
- 3. Invest in gender and age responsive formal and non-formal digital education, including digital citizenship, literacy and skills training, recognising the importance of providing girls and adolescent girls with the education and skills, including on digital laws and policies, to navigate digital environments safely, critically, and responsibly; and enabling them to participate in and benefit from the digital environment and increasingly digitised societies;
- Commit to increase educational enrolment of girls and adolescent girls in STEM and ICT disciplines, including by creating and funding grant and scholarship opportunities, to enable them to gain advanced knowledge and skills to become ICT professionals, creators, designers and leaders;
- Commit to a rights-based, multisectoral, survivor-centred approach to addressing, preventing and eliminating technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV), harassment and discrimination and online child sexual exploitation and abuse, including by requiring safety-bydesign and privacy-by-design, recognising in particular the continuum of TGFBV;
- 6. Address gaps in laws and policy frameworks that result in impunity and lack of redress particularly for girls and adolescent girls, for new and emerging forms of TFGBV;
- 7. **Invest in the collection of high-quality, timely and reliable disaggregated data** by, at a minimum, age and gender, on TFGBV, including new and emerging forms;
- 8. Create safe spaces for girls and adolescent girls, to meaningfully participate in digital decision-making and policy-making at all levels, and in the design, development and monitoring of digital technologies, and commit to increasing financial support to, girl- and adolescent-led groups and networks to enable their access and participation;
- 9. Recognise the disproportionate impact of misinformation and disinformation, including gendered disinformation, on girls and adolescent girls, and commit to address, prevent and eliminate its occurrence;
- 10. Ensure information on digital policies, programmes and decision-making is easily accessible and age and gender responsive.

# Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

- Include a definition of future generations under this Chapter or call for its definition in the Declaration on Future Generations; establishing a global follow-up and review mechanism for a timescale of up to three generations to re-assess the definition and implementation of commitments made;
- 2. Recommit to the applicability of all human rights frameworks and standards as outlined in the Chapeau, to all youth and future generations;
- 3. Recognise the importance of the <u>Guidance Note of the UN Secretary-General on Child Rights</u>
  Mainstreaming;
- 4. Recognise children, adolescents, and youth, as separate and distinct groups, and that young people are not a homogenous group but have intersecting identities;
- 5. Recognise adolescence as a distinct and key stage in the life course for laying the foundations for all generations to engage in civic and public life; global governance and sustainable development, and commit to safe, ethical collection of high quality, timely, disaggregated data by, inter alia, age and gender, to inform policy and programme development for adolescents;
- 6. Commit to inclusive, gender transformative and age responsive measures to address gender stereotypes and harmful social norms, recognising that they are both a cause and a consequence of the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination faced by girls and adolescent girls and that addressing these root causes is key to break the cycle of intergenerational inequalities, violence and discrimination they face;
- 7. **Recognise young people as equal stakeholders,** whose opinions and ideas are heard, integrated and responded to, and ensure opportunities are available to every youth, with or without access to technology, ensuring that they can collaborate and co-create for positive impact;
- 8. Commit to the implementation of the three overarching recommendations outlined in the <u>UN</u> <u>Secretary-General's Policy Brief</u> on Meaningful Youth Engagement, including, inter alia, a global standard on meaningful youth engagement, including a participatory, inclusive accountability mechanism; mandatory meaningful youth engagement across the UN system including through the creation of the UN Youth Townhall; and the establishment of the mandate of Special Envoy on Future Generations;
- 9. Commit to ensure the full, effective, equal and meaningful youth participation in all policies, programmes and decision-making through, inter alia, inclusive platforms for dialogue, mentorship programmes and amplifying youth voices in decision-making, including by addressing tokenism and other major factors that hinder the effectiveness of youth engagement;
- 10. **Commit to increasing support and resources for the UN Youth Office**, to ensure the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation of diverse youth within the UN System;
- 11. Commit to the full integration and implementation of the commitments made under this Chapter and the Declaration on Future Generations in all national and local youth policies and strategies, including establishing participatory accountability mechanisms;
- 12. Commit to support children and youth, especially girls and adolescents, and those structurally marginalised, to meaningfully participate and engage in multilateral and intergovernmental processes, including UN processes; and recognising the importance of the UN Youth Delegate Programme;
- 13. Significantly increase resourcing to girl and youth-led groups to enable their full, effective and meaningful participation in UN processes, through inter alia, establishing a central global fund, prioritising access for the most marginalised youth, accessible to girl and youth-led

- **organisations and movements, including grassroots youth leaders and activists**, recognising the value of their expertise, agency, and leadership;
- 14. Increase support for youth-led and youth-centred groups and networks, including informal groups, to access the UN and its processes, and establish formal structures within government bodies for youth, especially girls, to participate in governance processes.

# Chapter V. Transforming global governance

(Add your organization's concise, concrete, and action-oriented recommendations for Chapter 5)

- 1. Ensure that global governance structures are reflective of the needs, challenges and aspirations of young people in all their diversity, through, inter alia, reform of UN processes to institutionalise the full, effective and meaningful participation and active consultation of children and youth, especially girls and adolescents, and those most marginalised in global governance structures, including economic governance structures, international organisations and policy forums;
- Develop and implement participatory accountability mechanisms at national and global levels to track progress in diverse youth inclusion within global governance structures, especially for the most marginalised youth, ensuring their meaningful participation at all stages of accountability processes;
- 3. Create secure, meaningful, platforms for youth participation that are accessible to youth, in all their diversity, facilitating their meaningful involvement in policy discussions and decision-making at all levels of governance.